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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Pioneer broadcaster Richard Durham was born in  
3 Mississippi and raised in Chicago; and

4 WHEREAS, Richard Durham began his legendary broadcast  
5 career during the Great Depression with the Writer's Project of  
6 the Works Progress Administration; and

7 WHEREAS, Richard Durham later wrote for the CBS affiliate  
8 WBBM Chicago; and

9 WHEREAS, As the sole writer and producer of Destination  
10 Freedom, Richard Durham's goal was to combat the negative  
11 stereotypes of blacks in the media; and

12 WHEREAS, Destination Freedom was originally heard on WMAQ  
13 Radio from June 27, 1948 to August, 1950; it was sponsored  
14 initially by the Chicago Defender, then by the Chicago Urban  
15 League; and

16 WHEREAS, The groundbreaking radio drama Destination  
17 Freedom included 91 episodes, showcasing the lives of prominent  
18 black Americans; and

19 WHEREAS, Richard Durham's extraordinary genius in both

1 journalism and broadcasting included serving as editor for the  
2 Chicago Defender and Ebony magazine; and

3 WHEREAS, Richard Durham is one of five people who will be  
4 inducted posthumously into America's only National Radio Hall  
5 of Fame on November 3, 2007 in Chicago; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
7 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
8 congratulate the family and friends of Richard Durham, and the  
9 countless admirers of him and his work; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
11 presented to the family of Richard Durham as a symbol of our  
12 esteem and respect.